

Incident/Investigation Report

Agency: BCSO

Case Number: 19-00641

Date: 04/08/2019 09:32:25

Incident Information

Date/Time Reported 01/14/2019 06:57	Date/Time Occ from 01/14/2019 06:57	Date/Time Found 01/14/2019 06:57	Officer (C13) BROCKMAN, ROBERT A
Incident Location 7122 W OKANOGAN PL Apt. C, KENNEWICK, WA	Case Status: INFO ONLY		Supervising Officer (C07) MAGNUSON, ERIK G

4179

Charges

1	Charge Type	Description INFORMATION			Statute INFORMATIO	UCR 999	<input type="checkbox"/> Att <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Com
	Alcohol, Drugs or Computers Used <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Computers	Location Type OTHER / UNKNOWN			Premises Entered	Forced Entry <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Weapons 1. 2. 3.
	Entry	Exit	Criminal Activity				
	Bias Motivation	Bias Target	Bias Circumstances				Hate Group

Other Persons Involved

Name Code Reporting Party	Seq. # 1	Name (Last, First, M) TRUMBO, JOHN HARLAND	DOB 07/05/1947	Race W	Sex M
Address 3501 S GARFIELD PL, KENNEWICK, WA 99337					Home Phone (509) 947-9288
Employer Name/Address 333 W CANAL DRIVE, KENNEWICK					Business Phone (509) 582-1529
					Cell Phone
Name Code Involved Other	Seq. # 1	Name (Last, First, M) LEE, STEVEN RAY	DOB 03/30/1984	Race W	Sex M
Address 8108 SUNSET LN, PASCO, WA 99301					Home Phone (509) 948-2201
Employer Name/Address 214307 E SR397					Business Phone (509) 420-0000
					Cell Phone 987-3339

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Notes/Narratives

NARRATIVE

Accept Advised Event:

** Case number BCSO1900641 has been assigned to event BCSO19001586

** >>> by: 645142 on terminal: 645142

Information/RP - John H Trumbo, 07/05/47

S/Steven R Lee, 03/30/84

** CON search completed at 01/14/19 06:57:16

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19-00641

Information

On 01/11/2019 at about 1320 hours, Deputy Brad Klippert arrived at my office with Kennewick City Councilman, John Trumbo. Mr. Trumbo wanted to share information he had been told about that concerned Kennewick City Council Mayor Pro-Tem, Steve Lee.

Mr. Trumbo said the information he had heard was third party. He added that he had been an investigative reporter at the Tri-City Herald before he retired so he decided he would investigate the information he had heard in an attempt to confirm the validity of it.

Mr. Trumbo said he had been the City Council liaison with the Historical Downtown Kennewick Partnership (HDKP) until Steve Lee was elected to the council. Mr. Trumbo said Mr. Lee is the new HDKP council liaison. Mr. Trumbo added that the HDKP Executive Director is his friend, Dan Smith. Mr. Trumbo said he was having a conversation with Mr. Smith in which Mr. Smith said that he might not be with the HDKP much longer, alluding he was having difficulty with Councilman Lee.

Mr. Trumbo said Mr. Smith told him he had heard a rumor that a person observed Steve Lee with a large amount of cocaine that Mr. Lee had made available to employees in the break room. Mr. Trumbo added Mr. Smith gets his "vape" supplies from "The Fix" store in Richland. Mr. Trumbo said Mr. Smith told him the owner of the store is "Travis" and that "Travis" likes to talk. Mr. Trumbo said he went to "The fix" and contacted "Travis". Mr. Trumbo said he told "Travis" that he was interested in what he had told Dan Smith about Steve Lee and the cocaine. Mr. Trumbo said "Travis" told him he had a former female employee, 2 to 2 years ago, whose girlfriend was unhappy about what she was experiencing at Green2Go. Mr. Trumbo said "Travis" continued, saying his employee identified her girlfriend as "Cassie Rosenbaum" and that she was an accountant at Green2Go. "Travis" said his former employee said "Cassie" talked about piles of cocaine on the tables and then "Travis" used his hand to show the piles were 2 to 3 inches high. Mr. Trumbo said during their conversation, "Travis" told him he had been an EMT in Montana and was in Law Enforcement in West Richland.

Mr. Trumbo said after he spoke with "Travis" he searched "Cassie Rosenbaum" on Facebook, the Tri-City Herald website and called the Benton County Auditor's Office and learned "Cassie Rosenbaum" was a registered voter in Benton County and had registered at 10251 Ridgeline Drive, Apt. K106, Kennewick. Mr. Trumbo said he also learned "Cassie Rosenbaum" graduated from Southridge High School in 2012 and was 25-years old.

Mr. Trumbo then shared with me that he had attended a Ben Franklin Transit meeting yesterday (01/10/2019), and after the meeting he went to 10251 Ridgeline Drive, Apt. K106 and knocked on the door in an effort to speak with "Cassie Rosenbaum". Mr. Trumbo said there was no answer when he knocked so he left his City Council business card and left a message on the car asking "Cassie" to call him.

Mr. Trumbo ended our conversation by telling me he asked Kennewick City Councilman, Bill McKay, if he would ask his daughter if she was familiar with a "Cassie Rosenbaum" as she had attended Southridge High School in the same timeframe. Mr. Trumbo said Council McKay shared with him that "Cassie" was on the Southridge High School swim team.

At this point Mr. Trumbo had nothing further to share with me. I then told Mr. Trumbo that his "investigation" was done and that I would look into the information that he had provided from this point forward. Mr. Trumbo said he understood and he and Deputy Klippert left my office.

01/14/2019

On 01/14/2019 I asked Detective Larry Smith if he would do an inquiry in the TLO database for a "Cassie Rosenbaum" in Kennewick. Detective

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Smith was able to locate a Cassidy Lee Rosenbaum with a West Richland address. The age for Cassidy Rosenbaum showed she was 25-years old.

At 1310 hours, I called the possible phone number that was listed for Cassidy Rosenbaum, 509-378-4727. A female answered the phone and I identified myself as Sergeant Bob Brockman with the Benton County Sheriff's Office. I asked the female if she was Cassidy Rosenbaum and she stated she was. I then explained to Ms. Rosenbaum the reason for my call. I started by asking Ms. Rosenbaum if she was living at 10251 Ridgeline Drive, Apt. K106, and she said she was. I then asked Ms. Rosenbaum if she had ever worked at Green2Go and she said she started working there when the store opened on July 1ST, 2016. I asked Ms. Rosenbaum if she could tell me about her separation with Green2Go and she said she was terminated on August 17TH, 2017. I asked Ms. Rosenbaum if she would be willing to tell me about that. Ms. Rosenbaum said she had been a "lead" at the store and was terminated for "performance issues". I asked her if she had any issues with being let go and she said she really didn't. I asked Ms. Rosenbaum if she ever witnessed anything illegal at Green2Go and she said she wasn't sure of the I-504 rules, but she didn't think a retail outlet like Green2Go could sale retail and also process at the same location. I asked her if she ever witnessed any other type of illegal activities at the store and she said she hadn't. I then asked her if she had ever seen "piles of cocaine" on the breakroom table that was made available to the employees by the owner, Steve Lee. Ms. Rosenbaum said she had heard rumors and stories about cocaine being available before Green2Go ever opened but had never actually talked to anyone that had ever seen the cocaine. I then asked Ms. Rosenbaum if she had found a business card in her door when she returned home last night, and she said she had. Ms. Rosenbaum said she gave the card to her mother because her mother said she knew Mr. Trumbo and would call him. Ms. Rosenbaum said it kind of freaked her out when she found the card and there was a message to call. I told Ms. Rosenbaum she shouldn't hear anything further from Mr. Trumbo and if she did, I asked her to contact me at the Sheriff's Office. I then told Ms. Rosenbaum that I didn't have any more questions and I then asked her if I could re-contact her if I had anything else I needed to ask her about and she said she did. I thanked Ms. Rosenbaum and ended the call.

Sgt. Bob Brockman / BS13

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CONTINUATION

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Date: 04/08/2019 09:32:25

Supplement Information

Supplement Date 02/05/2019 15:02:59	Supplement Type SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT	Supplement Officer (C13) BROCKMAN, ROBERT A
Contact Name	Case Status: INFO ONLY	Supervising Officer

4179

Supplement Notes

19-00641
Information
02/05/2019

On 01/17/2019 at about 1000 hours I called Kennewick City Councilman, Steve Lee, to schedule a time when we could me. I explained that his name came up in an interview and I needed to ask him a few questions. Mr. Lee said he was available to come in and we scheduled an interview at the Sheriff's Office at 1030 hours.

At about 1030 hours I was informed Mr. Lee was in the lobby. I greeted Mr. Lee and escorted him to the conference room where I conducted the interview. The following is a synopsis of the interview with Steve Lee.

At 1037 hours I started the recorder and provided the date, time and file number, 19-00641. I identified Mr. Lee and asked for his permission to record our conversation and he agreed.

I started by explaining that I had received information the previous week that started out as an anonymous person and I told them that if they insisted on being anonymous I didn't want to speak with them. I told Mr. Lee that I was provided a story, that information had come through four or five different people, and the originator of the information was identified as Cassidy Rosenbaum. I asked Mr. Lee if he knew her and he said he did, that she used to work for him. I continued, telling Mr. Lee the information was prior to Green2Go according to Cassidy. I told Mr. Lee that the information was from two to two and one-half years ago. I then asked Mr. Lee if Green2Go had opened in January of 2016 and he said they opened on July 1ST, 2016. I then told Mr. Lee that the information was that he was providing cocaine to his employees. Mr. Lee laughed out loud. I then told him that there were piles of it on the breakroom tables. I then told Mr. Lee that the information had allegedly come from Ms. Rosenbaum.

I then told Mr. Lee that I contacted Ms. Rosenbaum and she told me she had no knowledge of that. She told me she had never seen that. Mr. Lee said, "Of course not!" I continued and said Ms. Rosenbaum told me she had heard rumors and stories, but she couldn't say who she heard them from. I then told Mr. Lee, too make a long story short, I wasn't going to bring him in, to which Mr. Lee thanked me for doing so.

I told Mr. Lee that initially, after I had finished speaking with Ms. Rosenbaum, I wasn't going to bring him in to talk with him, but it was suggested to me that I should ask you to come in, so we could have this conversation. Mr. Lee then said he wanted to say, for any record, that was the most preposterous thing he had ever heard on so many levels. Mr. Lee said they were on security camera almost all of the time, even before they were in [recreational retail] there were still cameras. He continued, saying it would have been so reckless to behave that way. He added that they had business relationships break because of people got secret, hard drug addictions to meth. Mr. Lee added that you don't see very many fat, white, dude coke heads. Mr. Lee said in the end it would be bad business. Mr. Lee said he could not deny the allegations fastidiously enough.

I then asked Mr. Lee if he has ever used cocaine in his personal life and he replied, "Not in any capacity in his adulthood". I asked Mr. Lee if he used it in high school or college and he said he didn't go to college, but it was in a transitional period in his life when he was trying to figure things out. He said that transitional period was many years before his late twenties, when he began starting businesses. I asked Mr. Lee if it was safe to say his cocaine use was ten to fifteen years ago and he said that would be easily safe to say.

I asked Mr. Lee if he ever provided cocaine to any of his employees at work or personally and Mr. Lee said he has never, one time, in his whole

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Supplement Notes

life, never one time, never once.

I asked Mr. Lee if he was aware of any employee, past or present, at Green2Go, that were using cocaine and Mr. Lee said they fired a guy for that. He said there was a gentleman that worked for them, and there was an allegation that he had a second job, as it were. Mr. Lee said one of the first rule of their company when they started developing rules was there would be no illegal side hustles. Mr. Lee said he didn't care if an employee wanted to wash cars for living that was fine but if they were selling other drugs or breaking the law then they were out. He said weed was complicated enough. He said if an employee was going to have an illegal side hustle then they were too risky for them, and that was the rule from the very beginning. Mr. Lee said he and his wife don't party with their employees or hang out with them because it gets too complicated. Mr. Lee said he had heard rumors that his former employee was at the very least supplying [cocaine] to other people. He said they talked to other people and couldn't ever prove anything, but the employees work performance was such that the terminated the employee.

I then asked Mr. Lee if there was anyone else, other than the former employee from a year, year and a half ago, has there been anyone else, associated with him that would interact with employees that might dabble in cocaine and Mr. Lee said he couldn't imagine. Mr. Lee said all the people he's close with and hangs out with drink wine and whiskey and smokes weed.

I asked Mr. Lee if he recalled why Ms. Rosenbaum was separated from Green2Go and he said he didn't remember. I told Mr. Lee that she had said she had been a Lead and her termination had become performance based.

Mr. Lee then asked, "So multiple people are saying he's dishing out baseballs of cocaine" and I told him that it traveled through different people and Cassidy was the alleged first-person source. I added that I had been told that Cassidy was so upset at seeing the piles of cocaine on the breakroom table, she quit, and at the same time she was breaking up with her significant other at the time and that was who she allegedly shared this with, and that person told another person who told another person. Mr. Lee said everything is so camera-ed that he couldn't imagine being able to get away with something like that.

At this time, I told Mr. Lee that I didn't have anything further. Mr. Lee responded that he didn't think this was anything he needed to be concerned with. He said he likened it to being accused of riding a unicorn. Mr. Lee then asked that I reach out to him if he can be of any further assistance on this issue or any other issue. Mr. Lee added that he wanted to make sure he is demonstrating that his priorities and commitments are such that he's building a good relationship with law enforcement.

I then ended the interview at 1046 hours.

I thanked Mr. Lee for his time and provided my business card to him. I also told him if he had any questions to please contact me. I then escorted Mr. Lee out of the Sheriff's Office.

Sgt. Bob Brockman / BS13